

INFORMATION REPORT

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1

EVALUATE

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AREA OF RESEARCH	SCOPE OF RESEARCH	RESULTS OR PROGRESS
CENTRAL ASIA.....	Exploration of "new suitable areas for <u>cotton-growing</u> (7/29) "Aral-Caspian expedition" working on problem of <u>reclaiming deserts</u> of Central Asia and of utilizing waters of the Amu Darya and Syr Darya flowing into the Aral Sea "to irrigate at least 10,000,000 hectares on the Aral-Caspian plain." (7/22; 7/29)	
Aral-Caspian plain.....	"Kara Kum Project" (underway for 9 months at time of report) investigating <u>future canal projects</u> "to make fertile vast area of 3 or 4 million hectares of uncultivated land" (4/22); study of a canal site between the Amu Darya and the Murgab River (5/25)	Expediency of digging canal between Amu Darya and Murgab confirmed.
Betpak-Dala Desert.....	<u>Astron-botanical research</u> , needed by founder of this new science; Tikhov, in high mountain regions of Republic. Tikhov's theory "was first to prove that planet Mars possesses vegetation similar to the plant life on Earth, notably in its arctic and alpine regions." "Aim of expedition--to study Juniper, Edelweiss, and other plants similar to those growing on Mars. (9/18)	Plants photographed with help of ultra-violet and infra-red rays; spectrographic pictures made. "New phenomena hitherto unknown to science relative to the fluorescence of flowers discovered.
Altai Mountains.....	Expedition to study the <u>reclamation</u> of tracts of the "Hungry Steppe" for pasture land. The "station has well-equipped laboratories for veterinary work, irrigation, and soil science, and a herd of 15,000 for experiments." The expedition is to remain in the desert "throughout the year." (4/22); Study of polymetallic Altai <u>ores</u> (4/26)	"Effective methods of extracting rare metals from Altai ores; ... found that 6 to 7 times more metal can be extracted than heretofore."

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TADJIKISTAN	Investigation, headed by Prof. Alexander Kirichenko, of the Republic's <u>fauna</u> . (8/16)	Returned with "a valuable collection which, after being studied, will be submitted to the Zoological Museum of the USSR Academy of Sciences."
Pamir region	Study of frequent earthquakes in the mountain region near the Pamir. (One of 12 "big expeditions dispatched this year to various districts of the country by the Geophysics Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences.") (6/17)	
TURKMENIA	22 scientific expeditions--geo-chemical study of <u>oil-bearing areas</u> . (6/5)	
Kopet-Dag foothills	Research in <u>geological structure</u> of Kopet Dag Range foothills. (6/5)	
RUSSIA	"Prospecting bureau" investigating question of exploiting the <u>oil</u> fields. (7/31)	
SIBERIA	"Several expeditions" of <u>astronomers and astrophysicists</u> to observe <u>solar eclipse</u> of 9 May 1948. Observation centers in Vladivostok and several other points in Siberia. (5/8)	
Krasnoyarsk & Minusinsk area, Tuva AR.	Search for minerals, particularly <u>iron ore</u> ; and research for improvement of <u>agriculture</u> . (4/22)	
Yakutsk Province	Geologist Zolnikov in charge of study of <u>soil and flora</u> studies in center of Province. (4/27)	
Lena-Aldan watershed	Expedition, led by Dr. Koshin, to <u>lakes</u> of Lena-Aldan watershed. (4/27)	
Lena River	Study of <u>fish life</u> under direction of Biologist Mukhomedisov. (4/27)	
Ussai Taiga	Astro-physical study of the so-called Sikhote-linsk Meteorite, headed by Fontom, magnetologist of Institute of Geophysics of USSR A.C. of Sc. (6/2)	
Irkutsk Province	<u>Geological</u> research. (4/17)	Discovery "of an industrial coal strata in the Galumets region."
Lake Baikal	"Extensive research" of the world's deepest <u>water reservoir</u> , under direction of the Limnological Laboratory of the USSR A.C. of Sc. Other lakes of the country also being studied. (6/21)	

AREA OF RESEARCH

GRADE AND DESCRIPTION

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RESULTS OF PROGRESS

SAKHALIN.....

Establishment of a new reserve for preservation of the rich forests and animals of central & southern Sakhalin; to comprise 270,000 square kilometers. (6/10)

ESTHONIA.....

20 expeditions to study the "Republic's natural wealth and history"; survey of 50,000 hectares of peat lands for new briquette factories; two soil-study expeditions in northern Estonia; expeditions "to study the economics, history, and development of Estonian farming,... experimental and clinical medicine, archaeology, literature, and language." (6/12)

Discovery of lime deposits which, added to the soil, "will permit an increase in annual harvest yields by 100,000 tons in the southern areas of the Republic alone."

LITERATURE.....

Examination of peat deposits. (4/26)

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